

# **Cone Penetrometer**

## **An Enabling Technology for Characterization and Monitoring Systems**



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**Wesley L. Bratton**  
**(509) 942-1841**  
**wbratton@ara.com**



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**An Employee-Owned Company**



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# Outline

## ■ History

- CPT use at DOE facilities
- DOE developed Tools

## ■ Characterization Technologies

- Platforms
- Sensors
- Samplers

## ■ Monitoring Approaches

- Soil gas monitoring points
- Monitoring wells
- CPT installed Sensor Networks

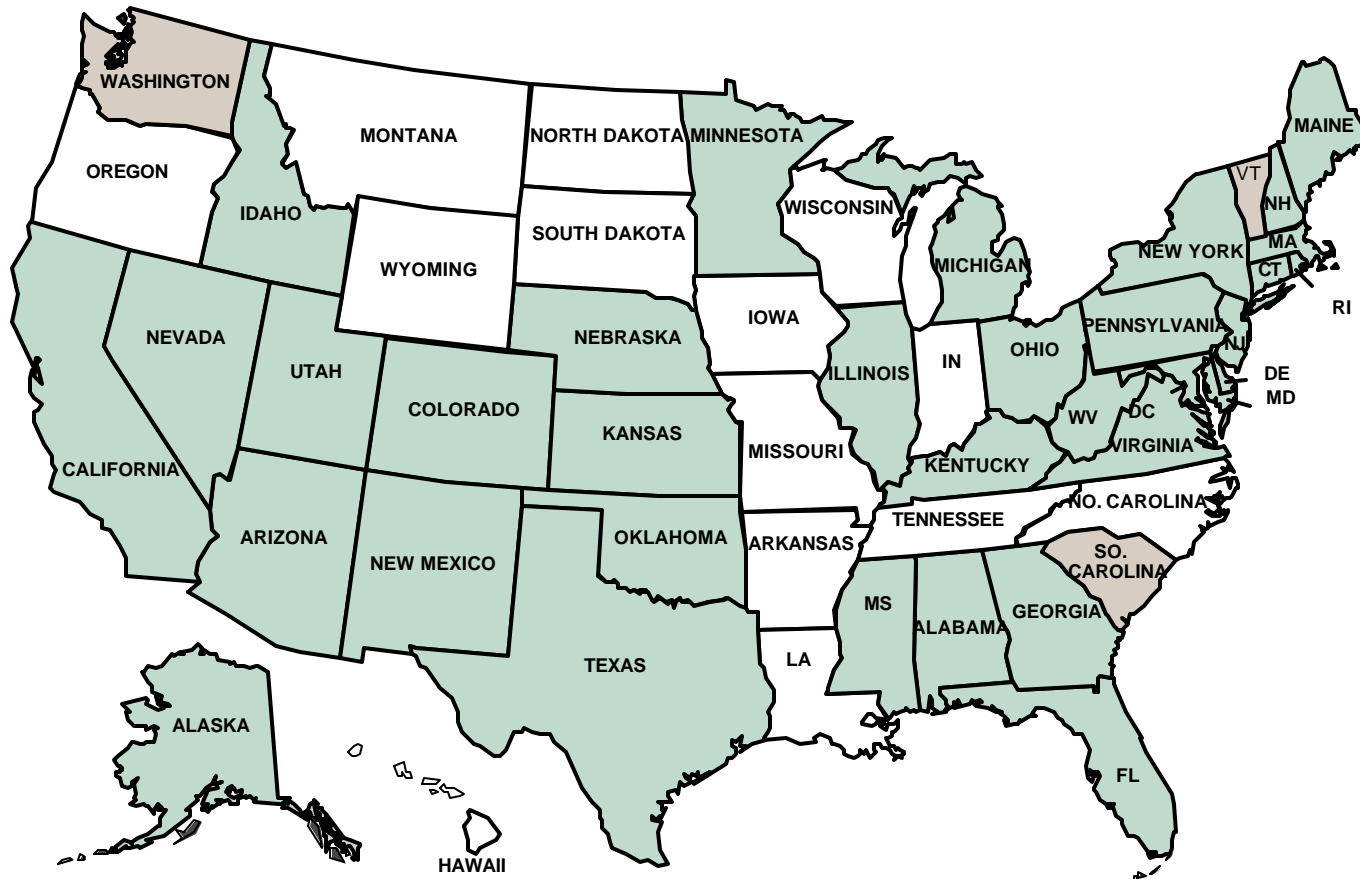
## ■ Summary





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# History

- **Developed in Netherlands in 1934**
- **1990 DOE begins working with industry to advance technology for environmental applications.**
- **>400,000 ft conducted at SRS since 1989**
- **>6,000 ft conducted at Hanford since 1991**
- **>1,000 ft conducted at NTS**
- **Also used at SNL, INEEL, Paducha, Pantex**
- **Basic technology is mature with new tools constantly being added.**



-  States with Applied Research CPT Experience
-  Operating Locations



# DOE Developed Technologies

**1990 DOE begins working with industry to advance technology for environmental applications.**

- Laser Induced Fluorescence Sensor
- Electrical Resistance & Soil Moisture
- Heavy Weight (30 Ton) CPT
- UTD Polo Tracking System
- Raman Spectroscopy
- High-Speed Gas Chromatography
- Wireline CPT
- Raman Spectroscopy
- High-Speed Gas Chromatography
- Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS)
- Permeability Probe
- Sonic CPT
- Gamma Spectroscopy
- X-Ray Fluorescence Sensor for Metals

# 30-ton CPT Rig



# Hanford Penetration Platform



# Track Mounted Units







# CPT Toolbox

## ■ Characterization Sensors

- Soil Stratigraphy & Type
- Soil Moisture and Resistivity
- Video Imagery
- Gamma Spectroscopy (beta ?)
- Raman Spectroscopy
- Fluorescence Probes
- pH, Temperature, ORP
- DNAPL Sensors?
- Air and Water Permeability
- Wireline CPT

## ■ Sampling

- Soil, Water, Soil Vapor

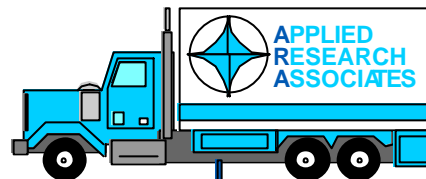
## ■ Monitoring System

- Networked sensors
- Electrical Resistance Tomography (ERT)
- Monitoring Wells

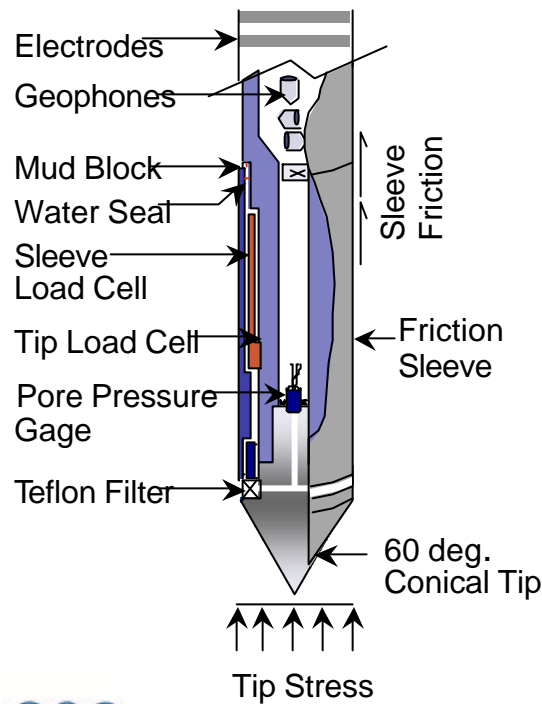
## ■ Remediation Installations

- Steam Injection
- Soil Vapor Extraction
- Six-Phase Heating Feasible
- Reactive Barrier Feasible

# Standard Cone Penetrometer and Sampling Systems

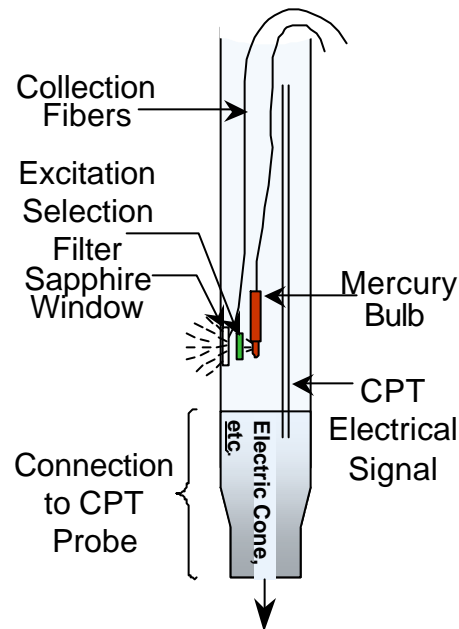


**Schematic of ARA's  
Cone Penetrometer Probe**

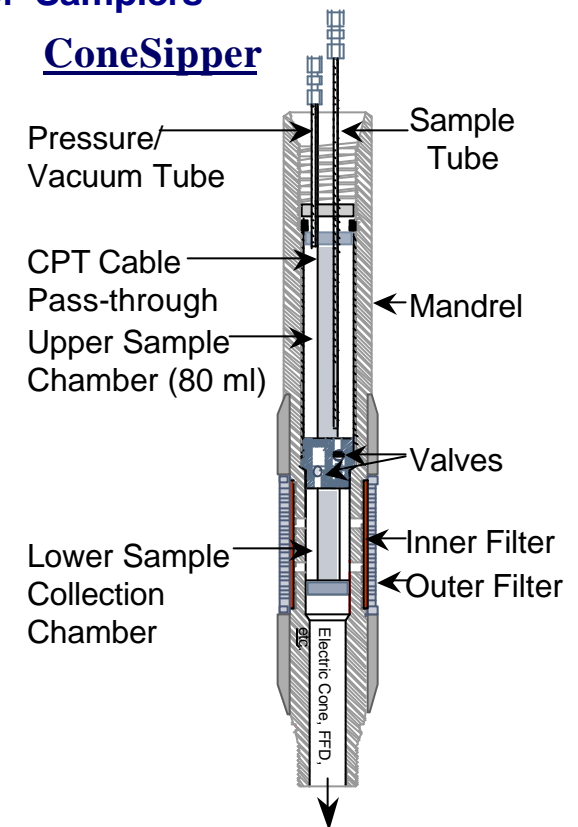


**Schematic of Samplers**

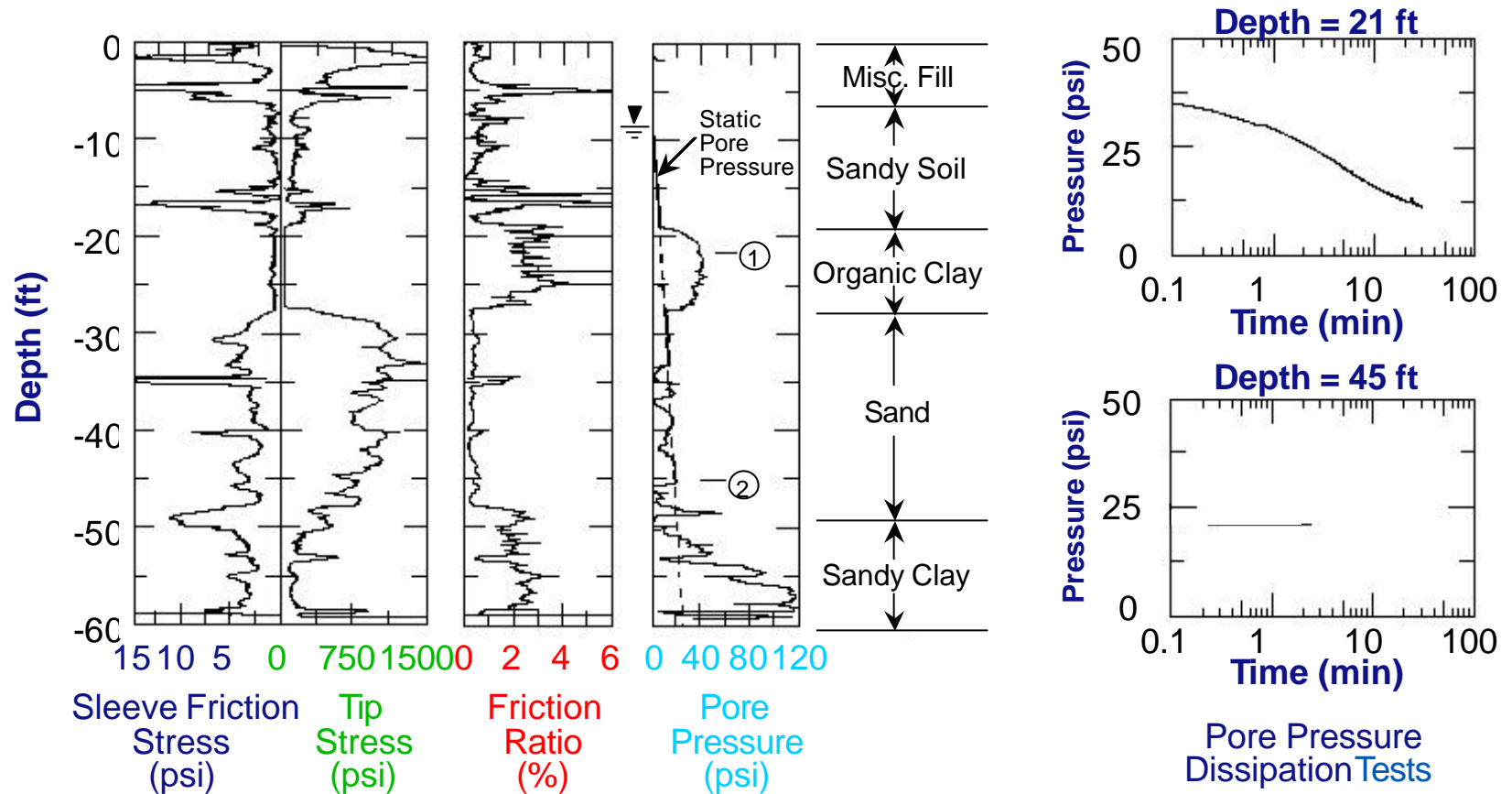
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ConeSipper

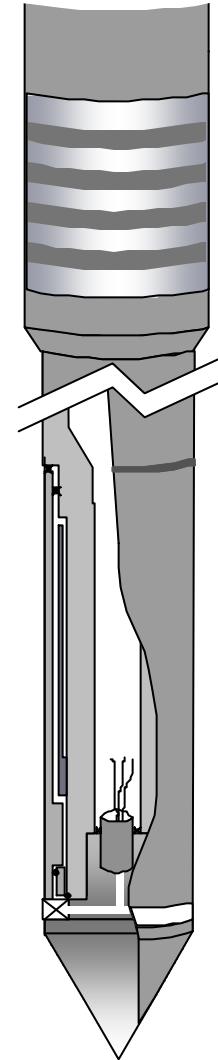


# Data from Standard Cone Penetrometer Test

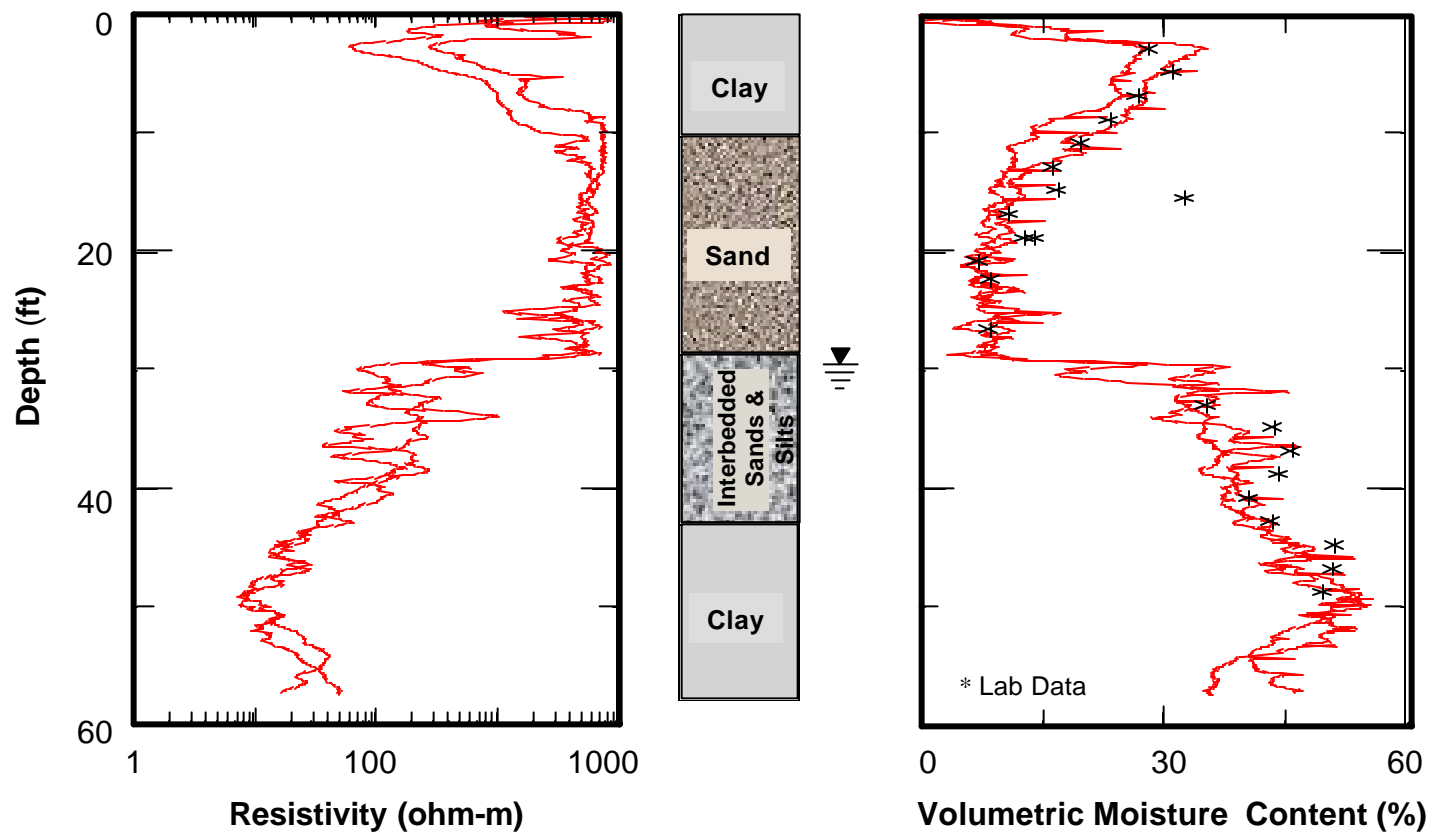


# SMP Probe Features

- ✧ Simultaneous measurement of soil resistivity and apparent dielectric ( $\epsilon_a$ )
- ✧ Correlation of dielectric to  $q$  (volumetric soil moisture)
- ✧ For saturated sites, porosity =  $q$
- ✧ Dielectric measured at 100 MHz, hence minor influence of conductivity on  $\epsilon_a$
- ✧ SMP outputs voltage directly into A/D system

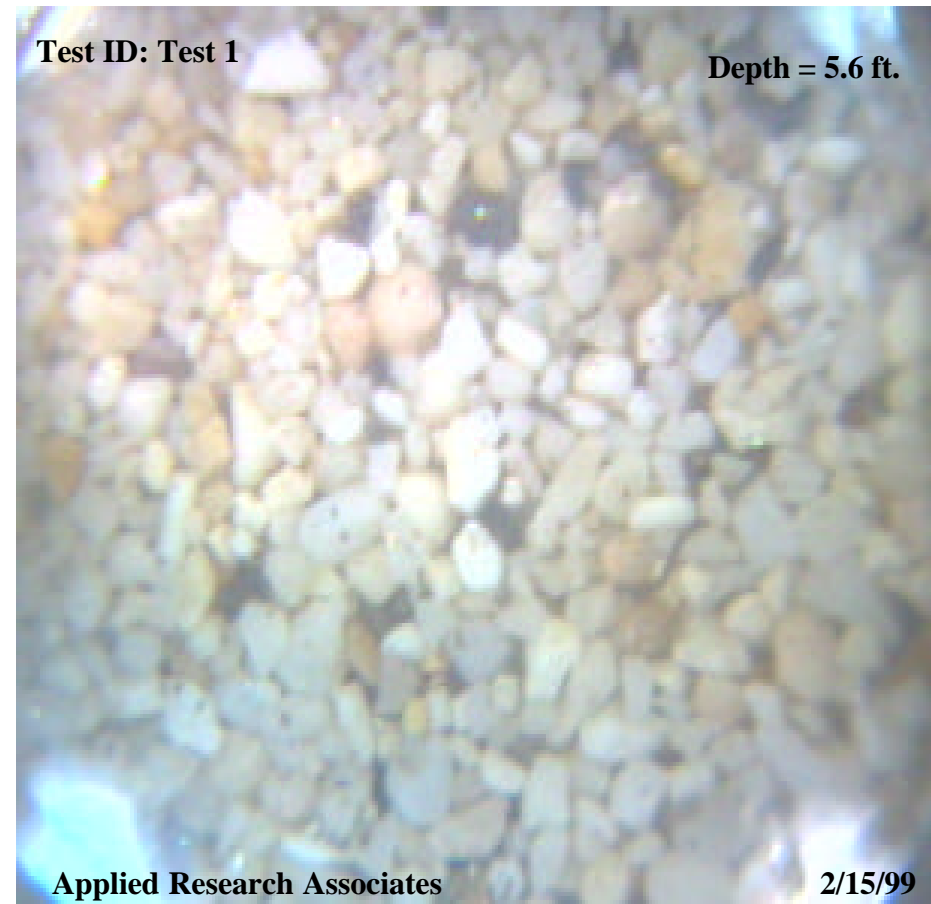


## SMP Data Obtained During a Field Trial Showing Resistivity and Soil Moisture Profiles

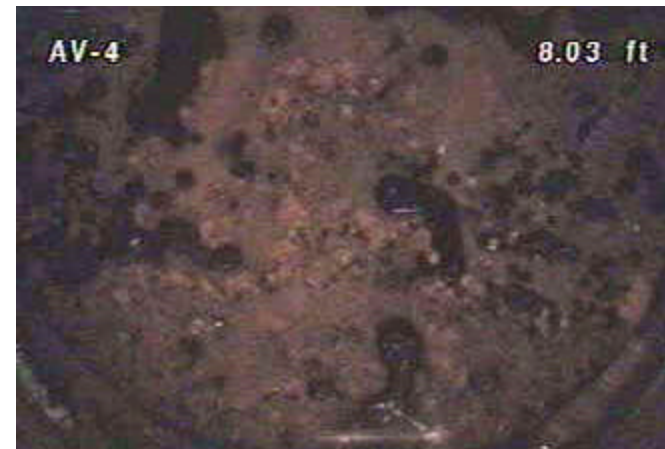


# Video CPT Image

- Image has accurate color resolution
- Assists with soil classification determination
- Continuous Video Image of Penetration
- DNAPL's can be seen on video image



## Video Cone images of Coal Tars at a site in NY





# Gamma Radiation Sensor

Gamma Radiation Probe and Sensor



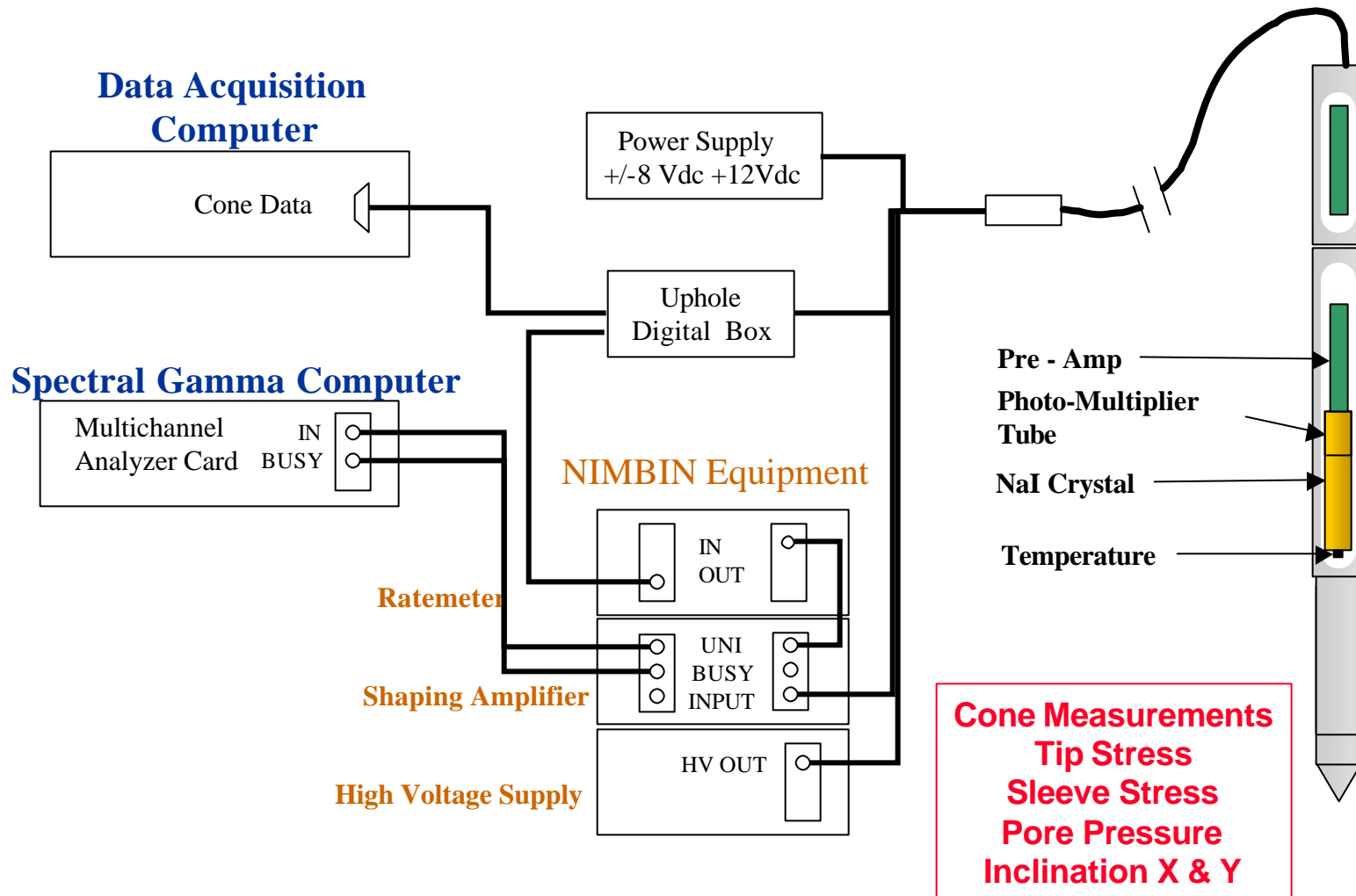
Gamma Radiation-Cone Penetrometer Technique (Gamma-CPT) is a cost effective and intrinsically safe method for locating radiation contamination in-situ.

## Advantages:

- Employees are not exposed to radioactive material, adding to site safety.
- Drilling waste is virtually eliminated, resulting in significant hazardous waste disposal cost savings.
- CPT soundings can be performed at locations considered too hazardous for conventional drilling operations.
- Time required for a Gamma-CPT sounding is significantly less than that of a conventional drilling investigation.
- Soil stratigraphy information is obtained simultaneously with radiation contamination information.



# Schematic of Gamma CPT System





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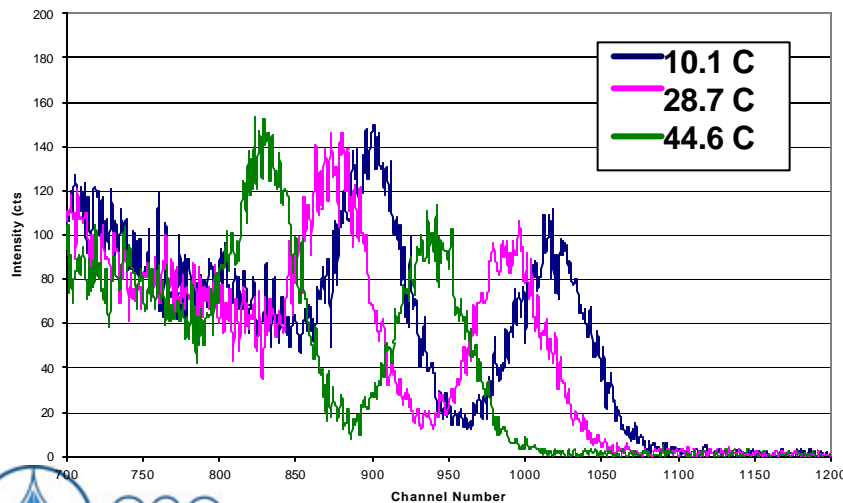
# Gamma - CPT system specifications

- Continuous Total Gamma Profile during Penetration.
- Energy Range - 0 - 2.8 MeV.
  - Cesium, Cobalt, Thorium and many other gamma emitters.
- Resolution - 7.5 to 9.0 % for Cs137.
- Efficiency - 170 cts/s/ $\mu$ Ci for Cs137.
- Minimum Detection Limit.
  - 2 - 4 pCi/gm for Cs137
  - 4 - 10 pCi/gm for Co60

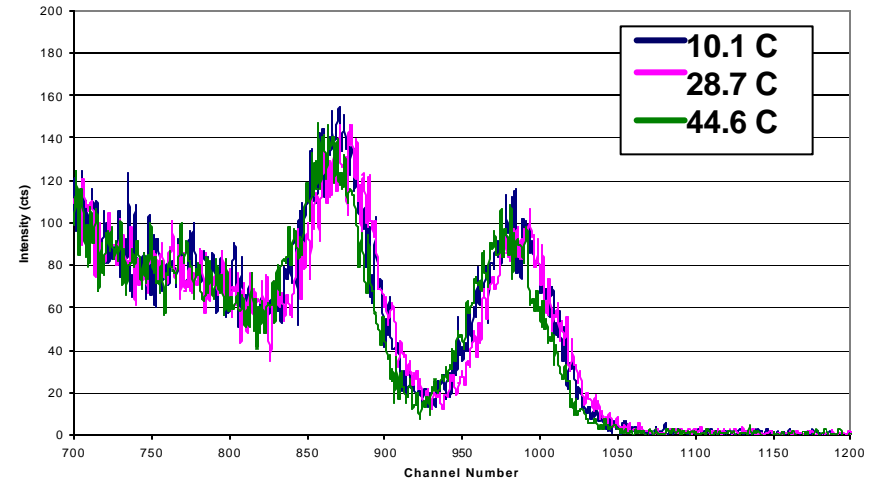
# Unique System Improvements

- Improved Downhole Pre-amp
  - 1 inch configuration
  - Provides initial shaping of pulses which increases resolution
- Temperature correction routines
  - Cone under goes a large temperature change under push conditions which alters the energy calibration of the crystal.

Before Temperature Correction



After Temperature Correction





# Field Investigations

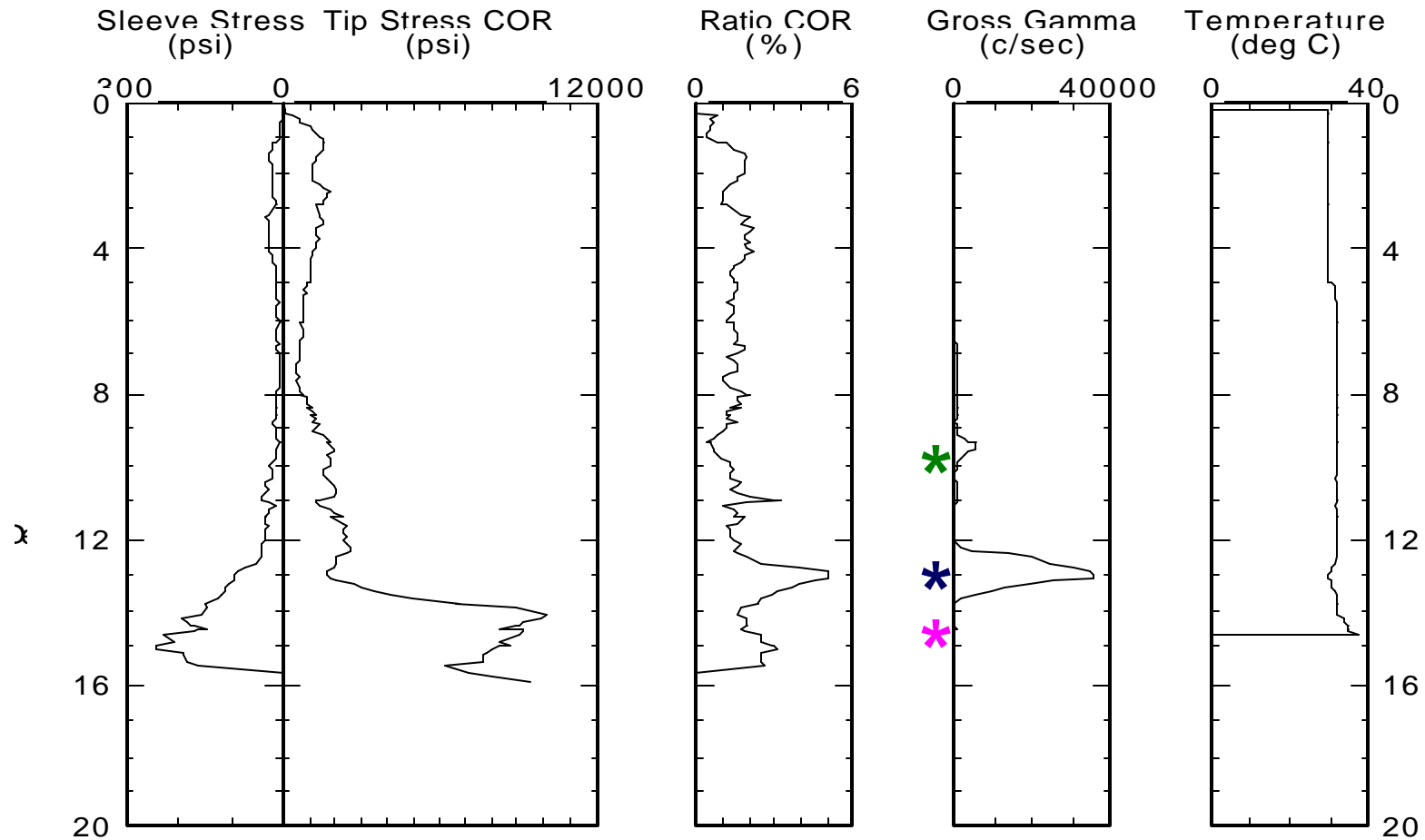
- Nevada Test Site - October 1999.
  - Immediately Following TIE Conference.
  - Area 25 radiological waste dump sites.
- Hanford Complex S-Tank Farm.
  - First time CPT operations in Tank Farm.
  - Vadose Zone Characterization
- IMC Phosphate Mines
  - Detection of phosphate rich regions for Mining Characterization.
- Nevada Test Site - October 2000
  - Investigation of leach fields for radiological contamination.



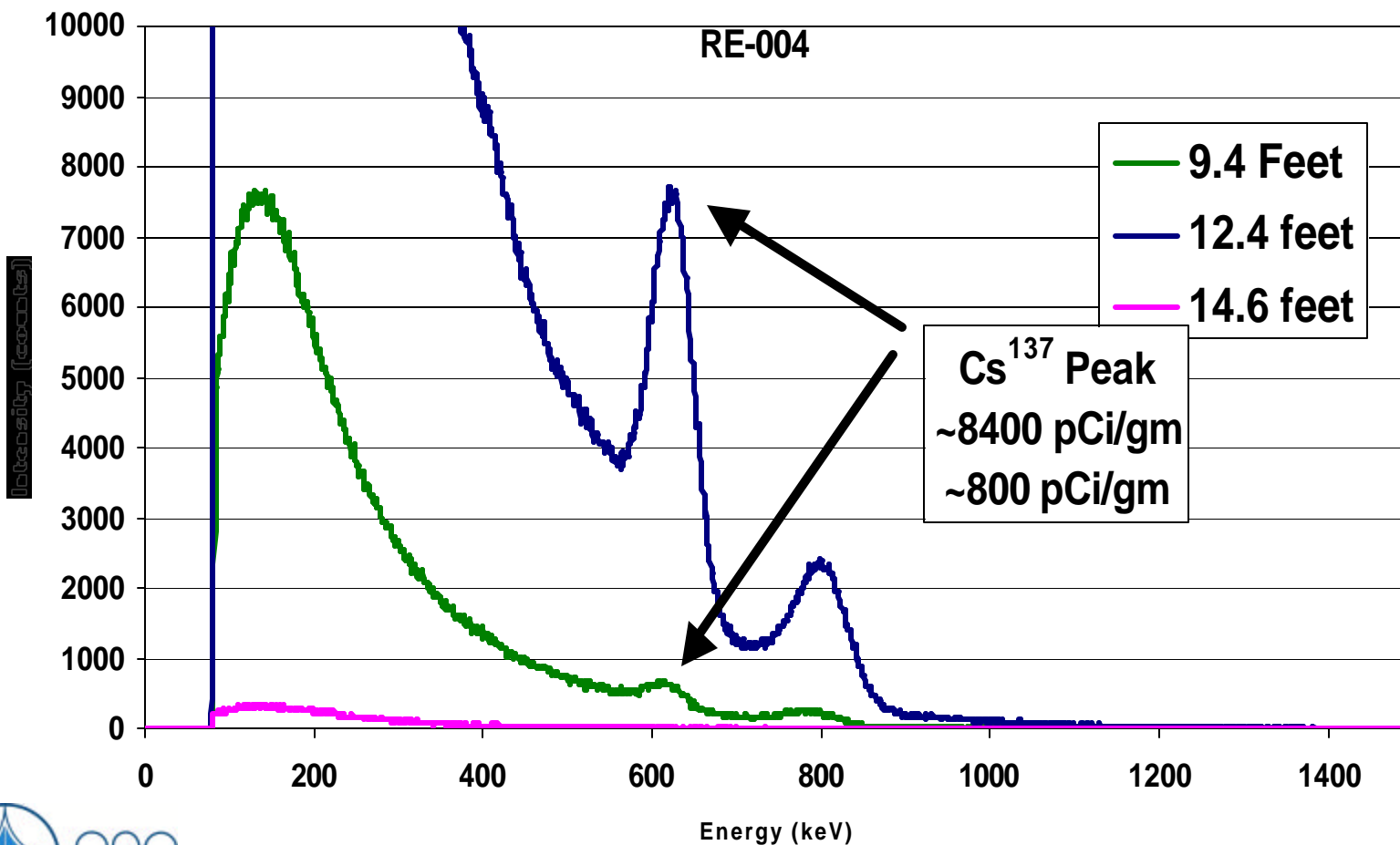
## **G-CPT Characterization of the RMAD and EMAD Waste Burial Sites at the Nevada Test Site.**

- 80 Penetrations conducted to depths of 15 to 20 feet to characterize suspected burial waste sites.
- Identified several localized hot spots of contamination.
- Measured soil gas concentration in conjunction with the gross and spectral gamma measurements.
- Rods were wiped clean by the soils and no decontamination of the rods was necessary.

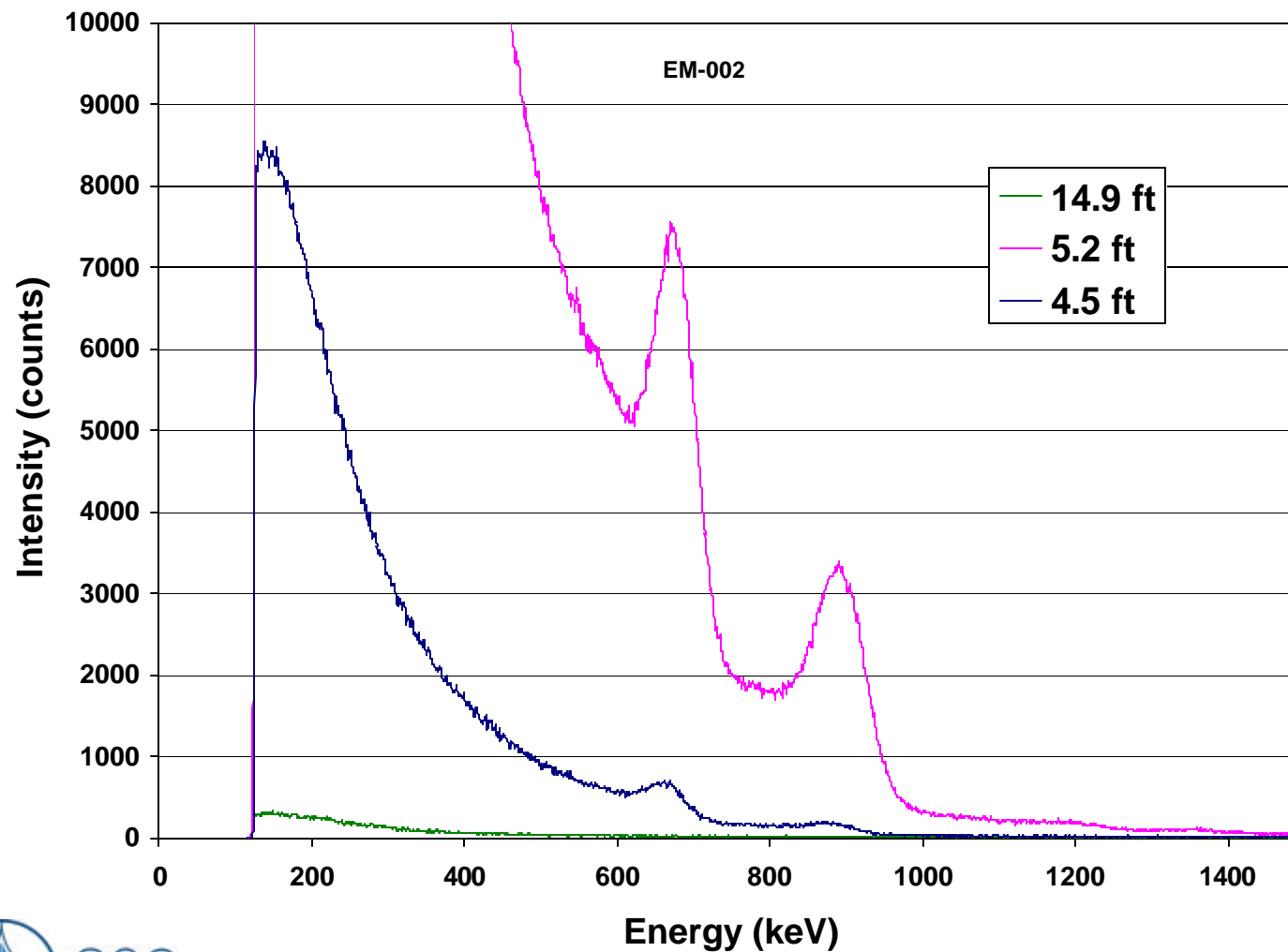
# Penetration Data from NTS R-Mad Area



# Spectra Data From Penetration RE-004



# Spectra Data From Penetration EM-002







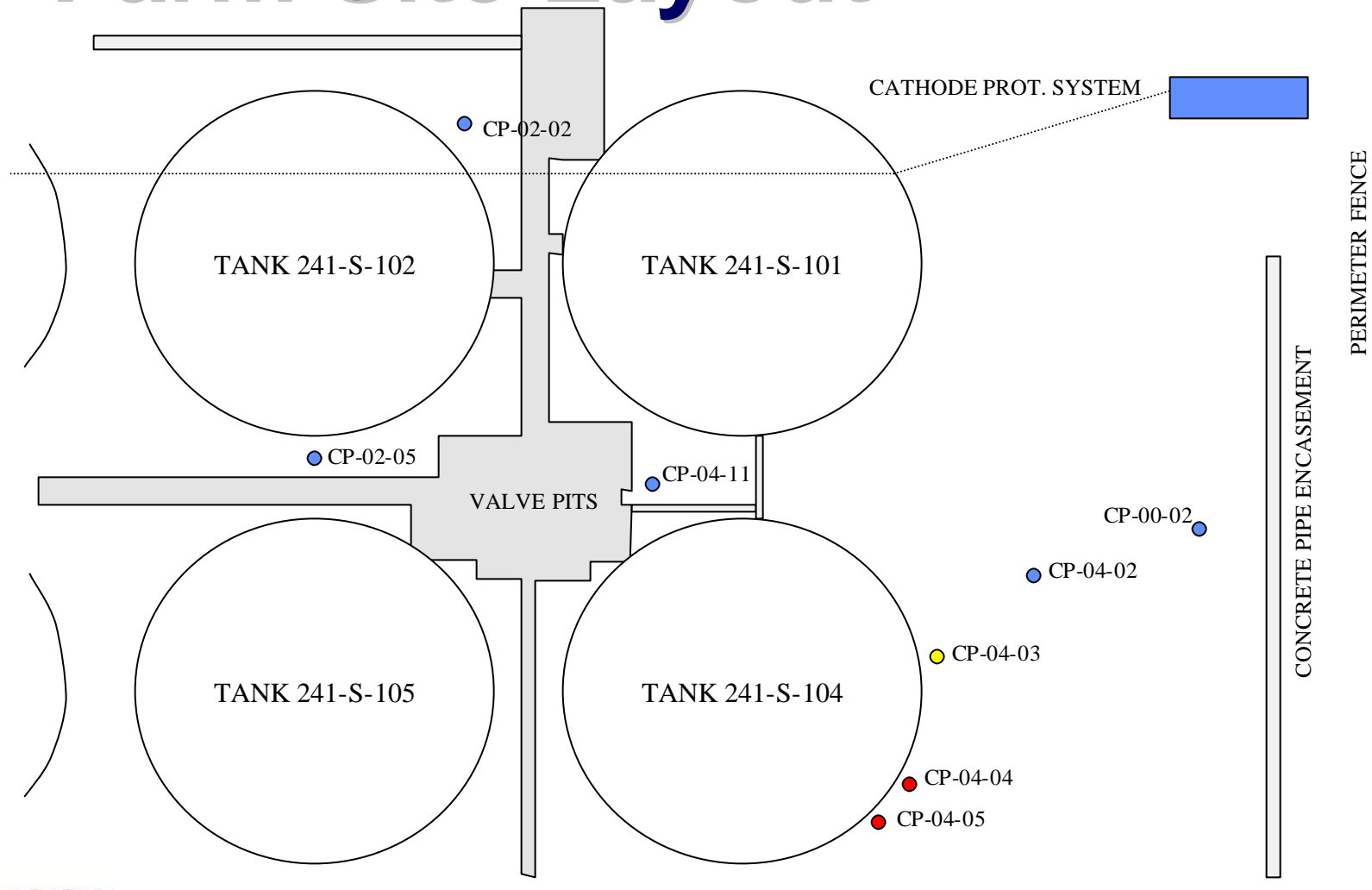
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# Gamma Spectroscopy CPT characterization of S-Tank Farm at the DOE Hanford Facility

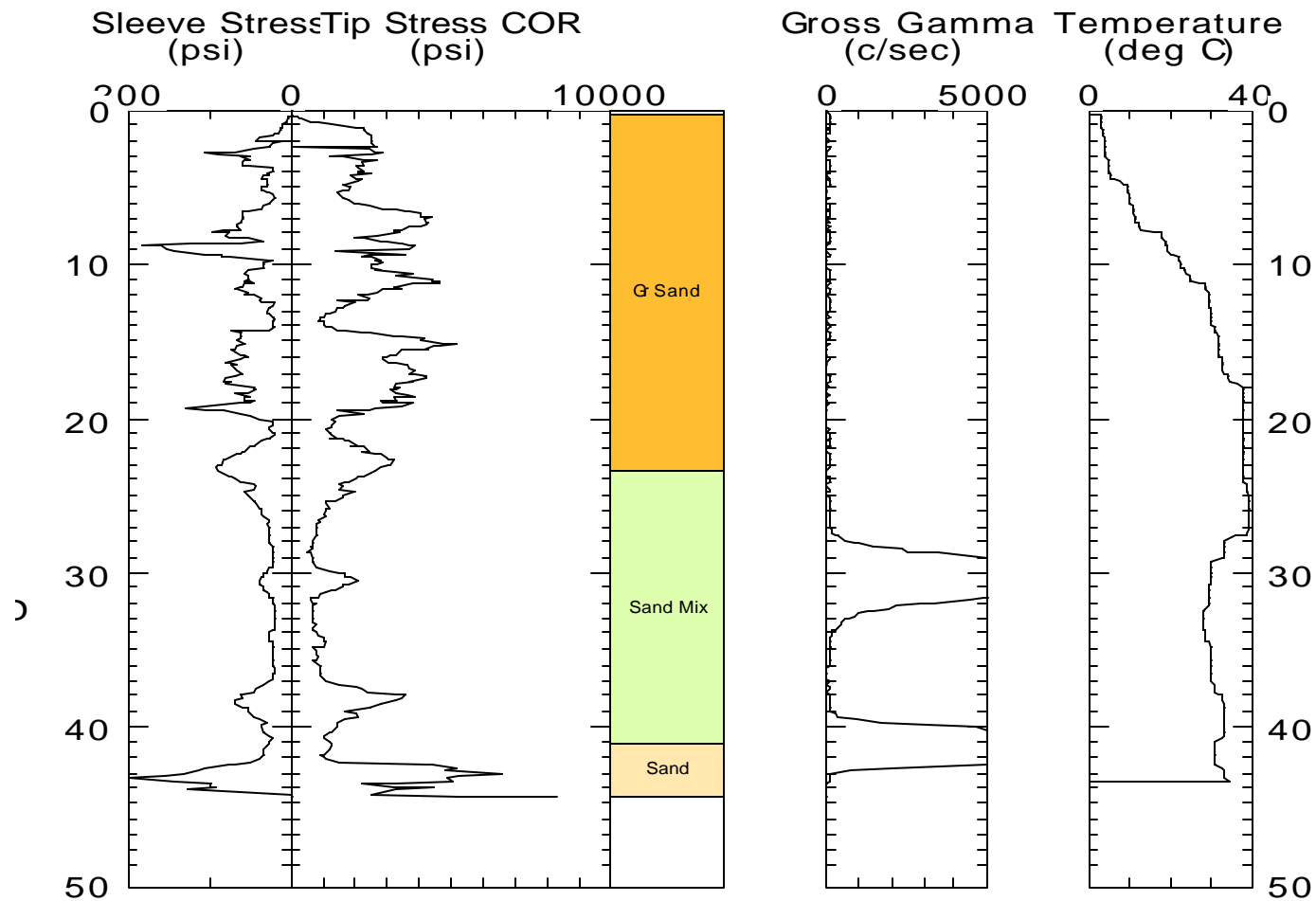
## ■ Project Accomplishments

- 9 Gamma CPT pushes to the tank bottom of 45 feet. Recorded Gross Gamma and Spectral Gamma when count rate above 20 pCi/gm Cs<sup>137</sup>.
- Collected Soil samples in regions of 50 pCi/gm and below regions with >50 pCi/gm or Cs<sup>137</sup>.
- Detected contamination at the bottom of the tanks with count rates > 150,000 Cnts/sec.
- All rods retrieved as clean from hole without decontamination.

# S-Farm Site Layout

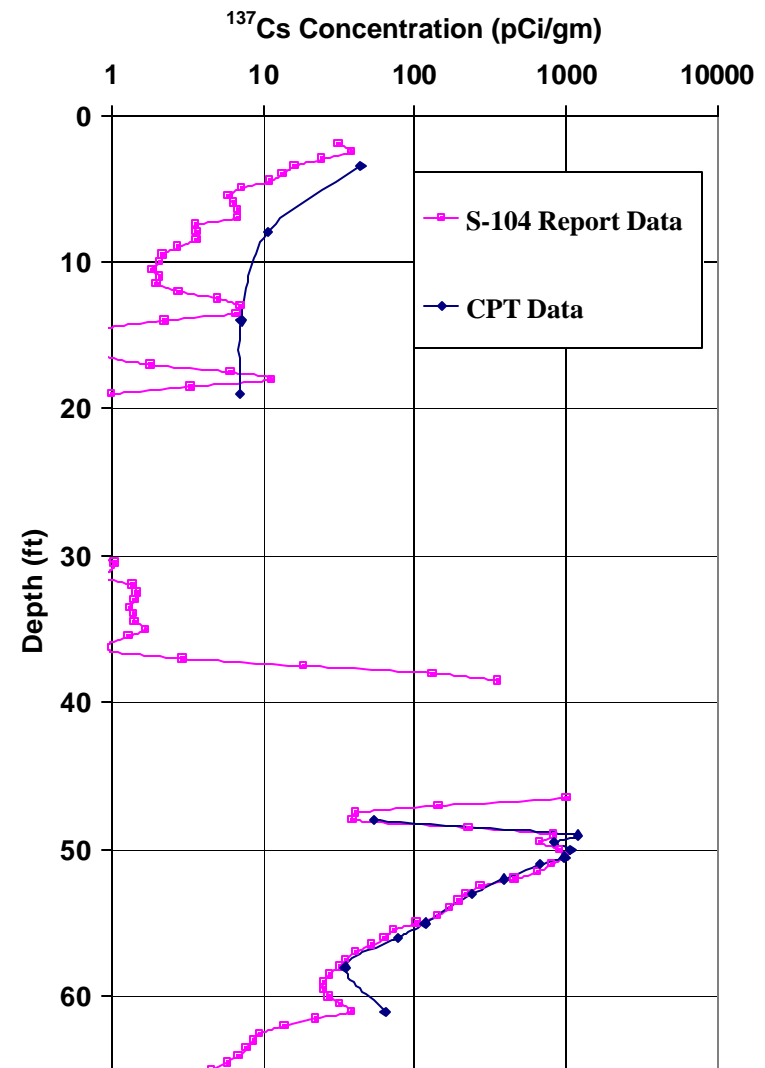


# Penetration Profile from S-Farm (CP-04-04)



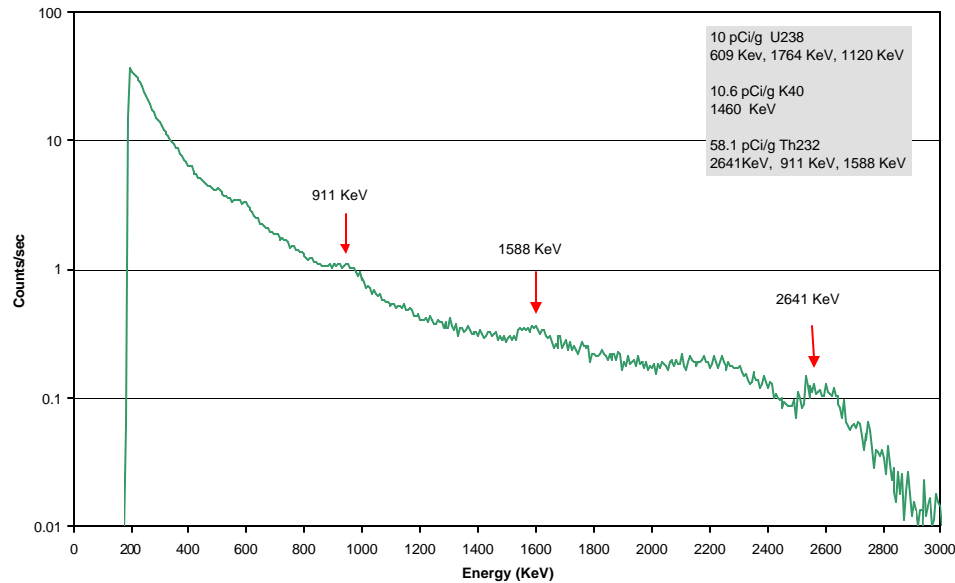
## Comparison of Gamma-CPT to Hanford drywell logging system.

- Calibrated probe in natural gamma radionuclide models at the Hanford Site
- Determined inverse efficiency curve to calculate concentrations from net area peaks in collected spectra.
- For  $\text{Cs}^{137}$ 
  - $\text{pCi/gm} = 10.2(\text{cps})$
  - $\gamma/\text{sec/gm} = 0.17 \text{ cps}$

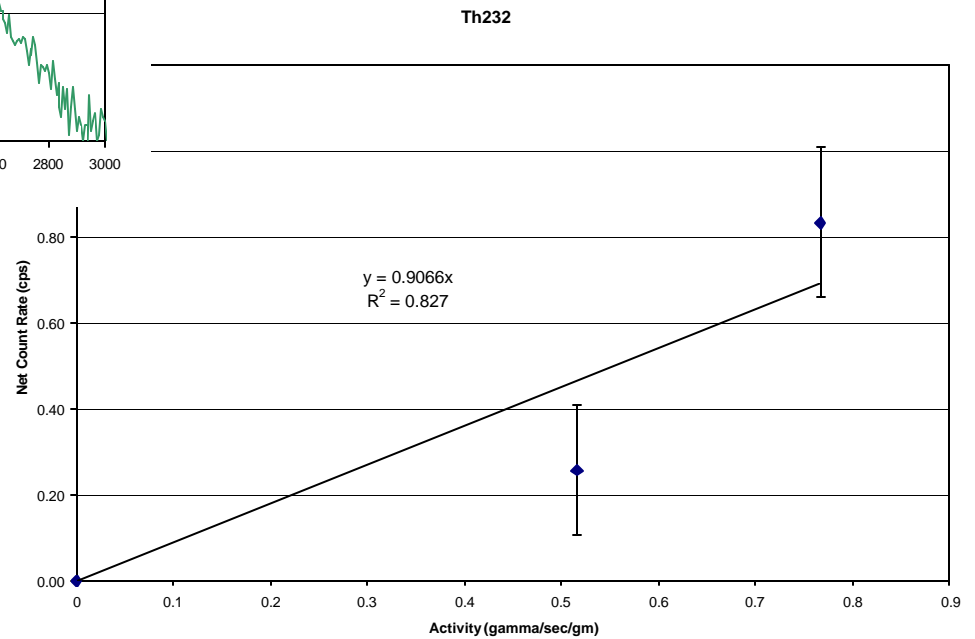


# Natural Gamma Thorium Model

SBT\_900



**Th<sup>232</sup> 2614 keV Peak**  
**g/sec/gm = 0.110 (cps)**

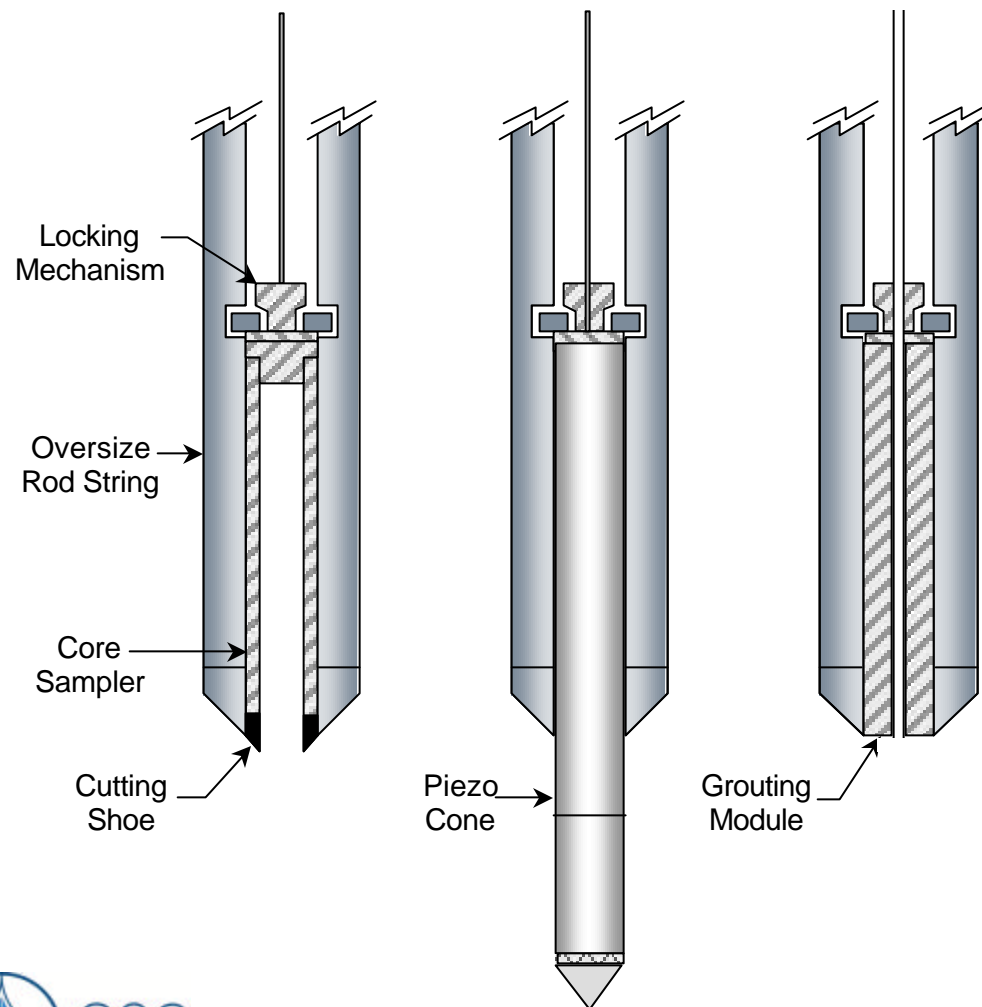




## **G-CPT Characterization of the RMAD and Test Cell C leach fields at the Nevada Test Site.**

- 80 Penetrations conducted to depths of 5 to 12 feet to characterize random locations selected in the leach field.
- Information used to identify sampling depths and locations for step-outs.
- Gamma-CPT information to be used to determine sampling volumes and if samples can be transported for analysis.
- Data currently under review by DOE-Nevada.

# Wireline CPT System



- Able to exchange tools without removing rods from the ground.
- Each tool locks in place near the end of the rods.
- Permits various characterization tools to be used during a single characterization (includes samplers).



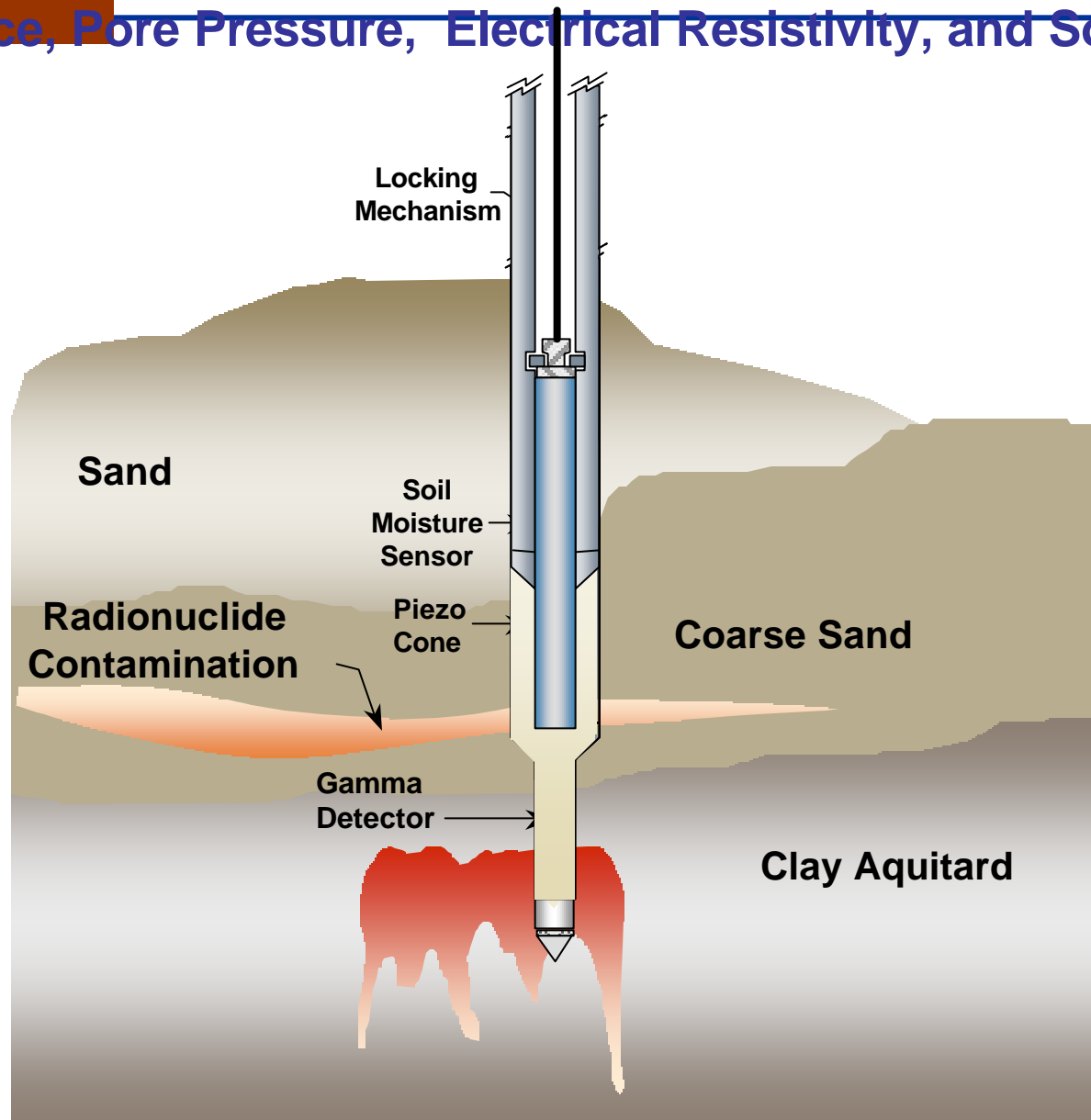
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## Wireline CPT Benefits

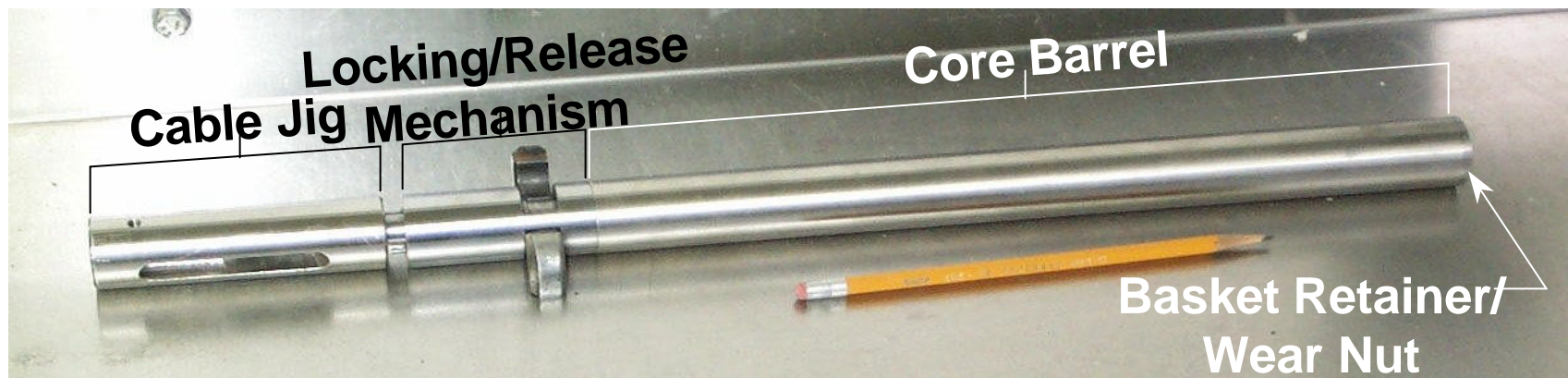
- Reduced time/reduced cost
  - Single penetration for sounding, sampling, sealing
  - Multiple samples from one penetration
- Fewer samples - sensor tells where to sample
  - Lower cost
  - Reduced waste generation
- Reduced risk
  - Sealing confined layers - fewer holes, higher confidence that grout is placed in the original hole



# Soil Sampling Methods: Pushing a Probe into the Ground to Measure Soil Properties, Soil Resistance, Pore Pressure, Electrical Resistivity, and Soil Moisture



# Wireline Soil Sampler





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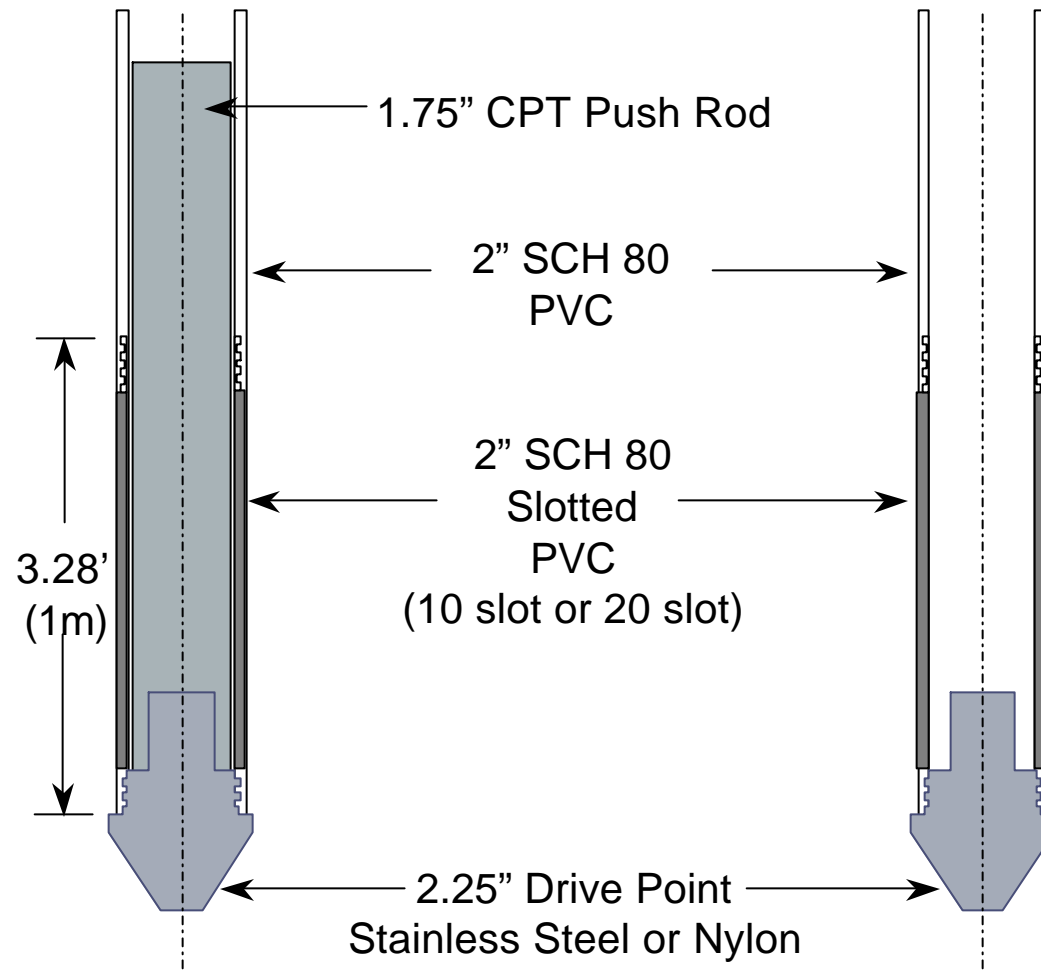
# CPT Monitoring systems

- Most CPT sensors are easily networked.
- ARA has developed a WEB based monitoring system that allows access from any internet terminal using standard web-browser software.
- 2 inch PVC well as also easily installed using CPT.
- CPT can be used to install Advanced Tensiometers from Sission at INEEL.
- Other monitoring approaches such as ERT as also easily accommodated.
- CPT offers significant costs savings over traditational monitor well installation approach.

# CPT Installation of Monitoring Wells

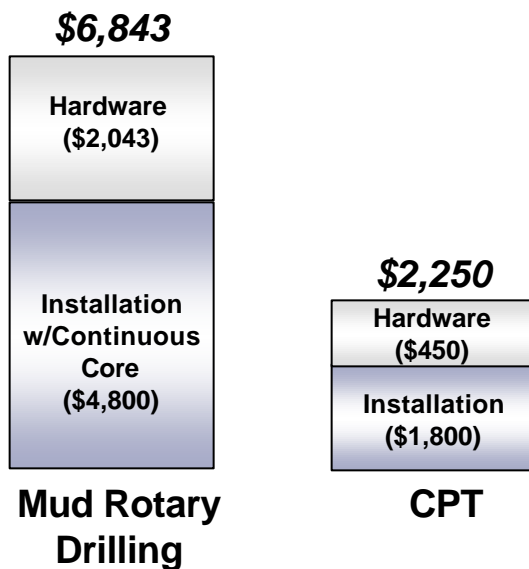
During Installation

After Installation

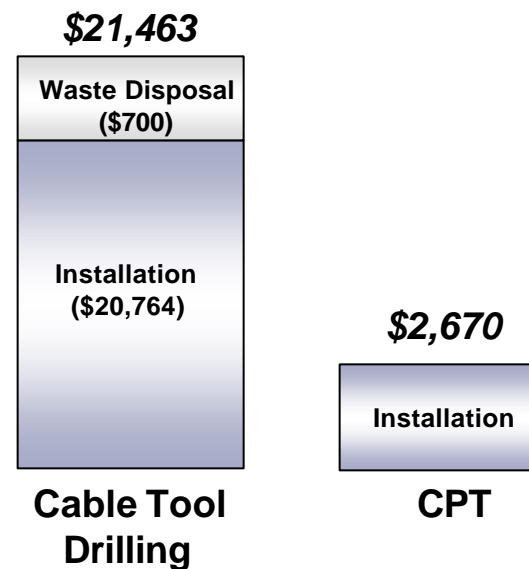


# CPT Installed Wells

## Installation of a 150 ft Direct Push Well (Savannah River Site)



## Installation of a 50 ft Soil Vapor Monitoring Well (Hanford Site)



\*Hardware includes, PVC casing, filter pack, bentonite seals, well head, pad

**Actual Costs from LANL Environmental Technology Cost-Savings Analysis Project (1991-1995)**

# CPT Costs



- **Mobilization/ Demobilization:**  
**\$5,200 (Aiken, SC to OH)**
- **Daily Costs: \$280/hr (standard work)**
  - daily footage depends on type of work performed but typically 200-300 ft/day
  - Gamma CPT - \$380/hr 150-200 ft per day
- **Waste Disposal Costs: minimal**



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# Summary of G-CPT Experience

- Economical and fast method for detecting radiological contamination in-situ.
- Generally able to identify and quantify the contamination type with spectral information.
- Able to delineate regions for sampling as well as regions where contamination is too high to sample.
- Significantly reduces waste generation.
- Rods are wiped clean by soil upon retraction, even in regions of very high contamination.



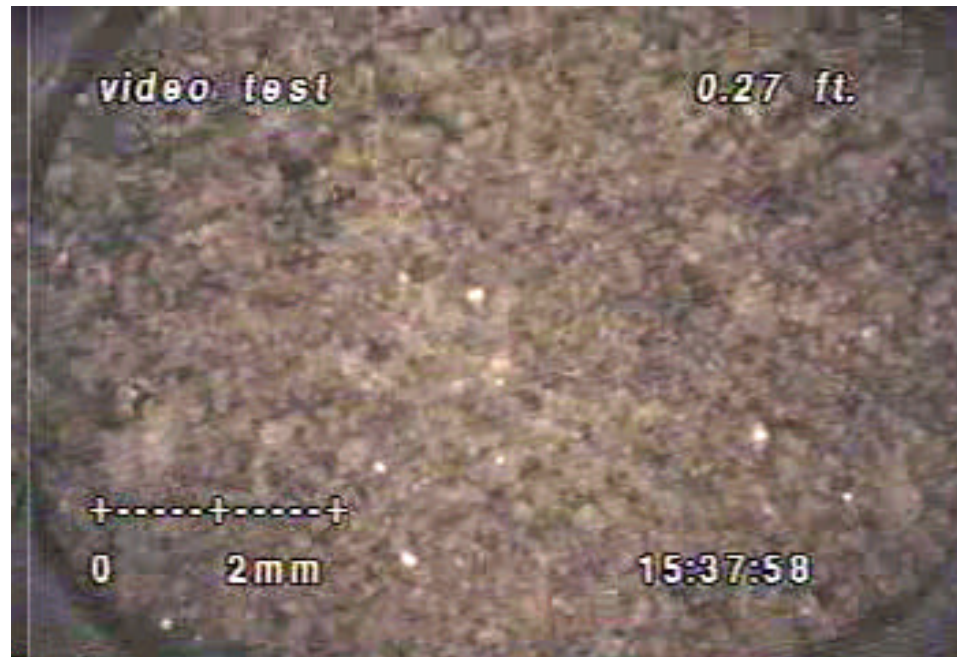
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# Summary

- **CPT can have a variety of roles:**
  - Characterization
  - Sampling Activities
  - Monitoring Systems
- **CPT can be used in vadose zone down to the caliche layer in 200 West.**
- **CPT is less expensive than drilling therefore reducing costs or expanding coverage.**
- **ARA soil moisture probe validated in six soil types and three geologies.**
- **Calibration for individual soil samples showed only +/-2% variation from gravimetric determination**



# DNAPL Movie

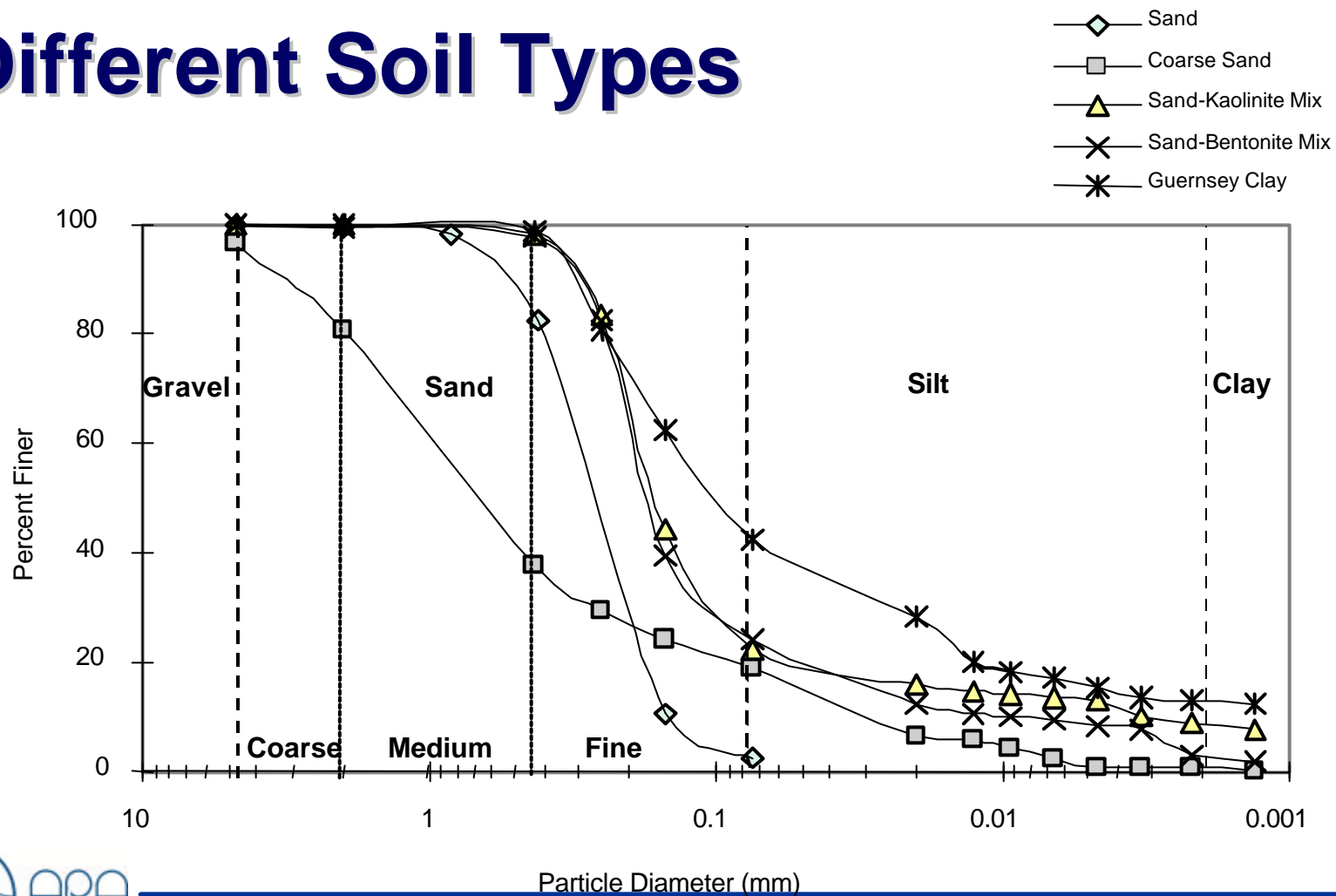




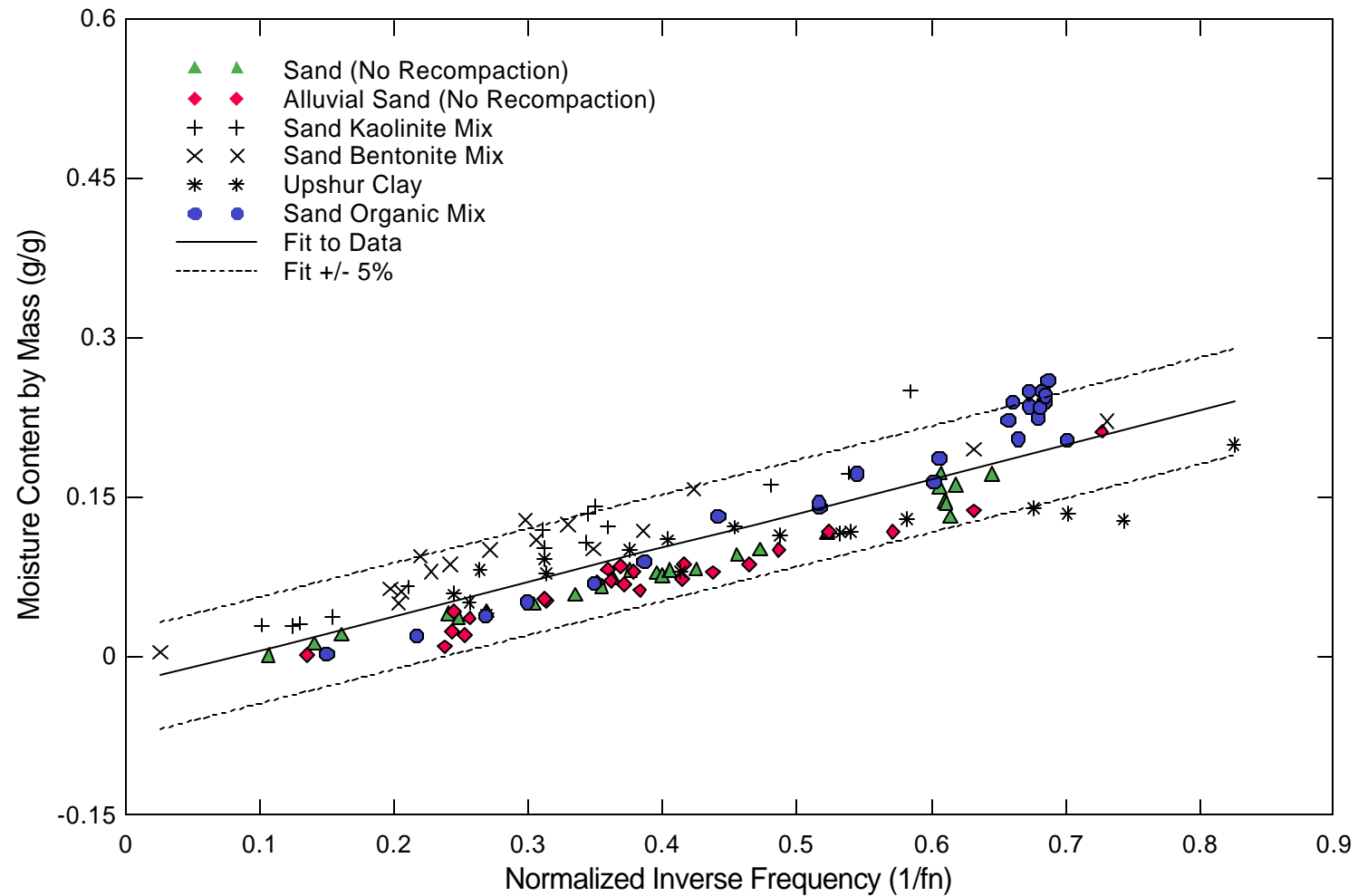
# Soil Moisture Probe Development

- Developed CPT probe in 1995
  - CPT probe was evaluated by Argonne National Laboratory under the SCAPS Program
    - Results were most accurate of three moisture sensors tested.
- USDA Phase I study conducted in 1997 for Irrigation Monitoring
  - Laboratory results are presented.
- Working on:
  - USDA Phase II - Additional sensor evaluation and networking.
  - Moisture approach for deep vadose zone applications.

# Grain Size Distribution for Different Soil Types



# Calibration Response Curve for the Different Soil Types



# Penetration CP-04-04

